

SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mission/Vision Statement

SEC VISION

The Sacramento Environmental Commission (SEC) envisions a county and cities where local government and citizen actions result in improved environmental conditions and enhance sustainability such that:

- water pollution is minimized;
- air pollutant emissions are minimized;
- land is productive and managed for multiple uses;
- natural resources are managed in a sustainable manner;
- renewable energy is readily available;
- people, plants, and animals thrive in a healthy and sustainable ecosystem;
- neighborhoods are clean and healthy;
- food is safe; and
- residents can walk, bicycle, carpool, or ride public transit as their first choice of transportation.

Sustainability is acting in a way that provides for the needs of people and the environment, while at the same time, maintaining the natural systems that will support life into the future, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

SEC MISSION

The SEC mission is to provide leadership, assistance, analysis, and advice on environmental matters to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of Elk Grove, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Sacramento. In this role, the SEC works with city and county agencies and strives to advance its vision of environmental quality, conservation, public health, environmental management, environmental justice, and sustainability. The SEC serves as an advisory body for the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD).

SEC HISTORY

The SEC was established in 1988 by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors and the City Councils of Folsom, Galt, Isleton, and Sacramento. The City of Elk Grove joined the SEC in 2014. The ordinance establishing the SEC defines a broad charter that covers a range of environmental topics. The SEC undertakes activities ranging from commenting on specific projects to reviewing larger more comprehensive environmental policies and proposals.

The SEC has presented awards that acknowledge contributions toward environmental quality and health. The SEC established its annual Environmental Recognition Awards in 1999 to recognize the accomplishments and leadership of individuals, organizations and industries that have promoted a healthy and quality environment within the Sacramento Region.

SEC MEMBERSHIP

SEC members come from within the member jurisdictions and have diverse backgrounds, frequently representing the areas of environmental law, community advocacy, environmental regulation, industry, environmental justice, transportation, energy, water, solid waste, environmental health, and land use planning.

SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

SEC TOPICS OF INTEREST

The environmental sectors presented below are general topics of interest to the SEC. The SEC comments on these topics if/when they impact the vision and mission of the SEC.

TOPIC	GOALS
Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts by City and County agencies to increase recycling beyond the state diversion mandate. • Increase collaboration with the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle). • Monitor local landfill issues. • Support long range planning to meet regional diversion and disposal needs. • Support land use planning that establishes a sufficient buffer around the Kiefer Road Landfill. • Support commercial, construction, demolition material, and food waste recycling programs; Support the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through enhanced waste management programs. • Promote the establishment of local ordinances to restrict use of single-use plastic bags and encourage the recycling of food waste.
Energy	Increase SEC interaction with SMUD, PG&E, and the California Energy Commission in support of efforts to increase energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources of energy where appropriate.
Air Quality/ GHG Emission	Support efforts to improve air quality within the Sacramento region including efforts by local agencies to reduce GHG emissions.
Community Planning	<p>Support efforts by SEC member cities and the County planning departments to incorporate open space and conservation areas, where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the retention of open space in new developments. • Support planning for conservation areas. • Establish relationships with the planning commissions. • Support Superfund and Brownfield redevelopment efforts.
Water Quality	<p>Support efforts by regional agencies to improve water quality in the Sacramento region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase contact and involvement with regional agencies involved with larger contaminated sites in the region. • Support permitted well construction/destruction.
Water Supply	<p>Support efforts by regional agencies to develop sustainable and reliable surface and groundwater supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support water conservation programs. • Support long range planning for water supply needs. • Monitor agency actions related to water resources protection. • Work with EMD to support small water system supply.

SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Flood Control	<p>Support efforts by local agencies to design and implement effective flood control for the Sacramento region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support efforts to increase flood protection provided by American and Sacramento River levees. • Support efforts to increase flood protection provided by Folsom Dam. • Support efforts to minimize flooding from Sacramento County streams.
Environmental Health	<p>Support efforts by EMD to protect public health and the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Green/Yellow/Red Placard Program. • Support EMD’s efforts to develop measurable program goals. • Support EMD’s public pool, food safety, stormwater, body art, underground tank storage, cross connection and wells programs. • Support hazardous materials programs. • Support public health programs and initiatives.
Pollution Prevention	<p>Work with local agencies to support pollution prevention within their operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce pesticide runoff. • Support hazardous materials collection operations. • Reduce light pollution at night “Dark skies”.
Transportation	<p>Support efforts within the Sacramento region to provide a variety of mobility/transportation options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support regional transit long range planning. • Support efforts to incorporate transportation planning into future land use planning. • Promote development and use of alternative modes of transportation such as walking, bicycling and riding public transit. • Promote development of electric vehicle infrastructure capable of meeting future demand.
Environmental Justice	<p>Support efforts by City and County agencies to design and implement environmental programs that are fair and equitable to all Sacramento area residents.</p>
Agriculture/Land Use	<p>Support efforts by local agencies to implement land use policies sensitive to environmental concerns for the Sacramento region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support development of facilities for accessible parks. • Support conservation of open spaces. • Preserve prime farm land and support urban farming. • Preserve critical habitat resources. • Protect and restore urban and rural creek systems.